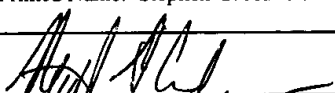


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| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE   |  | DATE: June 26, 2006                                  |
| TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE<br>(DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371  |  | U.S. Application No. (if known):<br><b>10/584331</b> |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.:<br><b>PCT/JP2004/019245</b>   | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE:<br><b>December 22, 2004</b> | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED:<br><b>December 26, 2003</b>   |
| TITLE OF INVENTION: <b>APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING TYPE OF LIQUID IN A CONTAINER AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING THE APPARATUS</b>  |  |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: <b>Takeshi ABE et al.</b>   |  |  |
| Applicant hereby submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:  |  |  |
| <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)):</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p> |  |  |
| ITEMS 11. TO 20. BELOW CONCERN OTHER DOCUMENT(S) OR INFORMATION INCLUDED:  |  |  |
| <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 together with the international search report, PTO/SB/08 and 6 references.</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.<br/>ASSIGNEE NAME AND ADDRESS: <b>TOKYO GAS CO., LTD., Tokyo, Japan.</b><br/>Please publish the assignee data with the application.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 C.F.R. 1.76</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 C.F.R. 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <b>18 sheets of Drawings.</b></p>  |  |  |

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|---|--------------|--|--|--|--------------|
| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known)<br><b>10/584331</b>   |              | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>PCT/JP2004/019245 |  | DATE: June 26, 2006  |              |
| The following fees are submitted:   |              |  |  | CALCULATIONS   | PTO USE ONLY |
| 21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic National Stage Fee \$300<br>22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Stage Examination Fee<br>If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100<br>All other situations \$200<br>23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Stage Search Fee<br>Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority \$100<br>International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office \$400<br>All other situations \$500<br>ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =                                      |              |  |  | \$ 300.00<br><br><br>\$ 200.00<br><br><br>\$ 400.00<br><br><br>\$ 900.00 |              |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).  |              |  |  |  |              |
| CLAIMS  | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA                                       | RATE   |  |              |
| TOTAL   | 34-20=       | 14   | X \$ 50.00   | \$ 700.00  |              |
| INDEPENDENT   | 7-3=         | 4  | X \$ 200.00  | \$ 800.00  |              |
| Multiple dependent claims(s) (if applicable)  |              |  | + \$360.00   |  |              |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =   |              |  |  | \$2,400.00   |              |
| National Stage Application Size Fee-for each additional 50 sheets that exceeds 100 sheets \$ 250.00.  |              |  |  |  |              |
| Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).  |              |  |  |  |              |
| SUBTOTAL =  |              |  |  | \$2,400.00   |              |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). +   |              |  |  |  |              |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =  |              |  |  | \$2,400.00   |              |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +  |              |  |  | \$ 40.00   |              |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =   |              |  |  | \$2,440.00   |              |
|   |              |  |  | Amount to be:<br>refunded<br>charged                                     | \$<br>\$     |
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$2,440.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.<br>(\$300.00 for basic national stage fee; \$400.00 for national stage search fee; \$200.00 for national stage examination fee; \$700.00 for 14 extra claims exceeding 20; \$800.00 for 4 extra independent claims exceeding 3; and \$40.00 for assignment recordation fee).<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-2866 in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees.<br>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2866. |              |  |  |  |              |
| NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed to request that the application be restored to pending status.  |              |  |  |  |              |
| Send All Correspondence To:   |              |  | WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP<br>1250 Connecticut Avenue NW<br>Suite 700<br>Washington, DC 20036<br>CUSTOMER NO. 38834 |  |              |
| Typed or Printed Name: Stephen G. Adrian  |              |  | Reg. No.: 32,878   |  |              |
| Signature    |              |  | Date: June 26, 2006  |  |              |

SGA/mc